

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## THE EARLY EDUCATION ACT OF 1999

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 4, 1999*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce The Early Education Act of 1999. This bill would supplement state efforts in providing early education to children before they reach kindergarten. It authorizes \$300 million a year so that high-quality, accessible early education will be available to all children.

Early education is vitally important to the success of our children, both for their academic progress as well as achievements in life. The National Research Council reported that early education opportunities are necessary if children are going to develop the language and literacy skills necessary to learn to read. A New York Times article also reported that "[students] with higher quality preschool classes did better in language and math skills" than those who were not in these classes. Research suggests that a child's early years are critical in the development of the brain and that early brain development is an important component of educational and intellectual achievement.

Evaluations of state efforts demonstrate the value of early education. Compared to children with similar backgrounds who have not had the benefit of early education, children who have are more likely to stay academically at or near their grade level and make normal academic progress throughout elementary school. These students are also less likely to be held back a grade or require special education services in elementary school. They are more likely to show greater learning retention, initiative, creativity, and social competency. They are more enthusiastic about school and more likely to have good attendance records.

The Early Education Act of 1999 would provide additional means for states to expand their education systems to ensure that our children will have the utmost in opportunities. Studies estimate that for every dollar invested in quality early education, approximately seven dollars are saved in later costs. I can't think of many things that Congress does that are more important than the education and health of our children. I hope all my colleagues will agree with me on the importance of early education and support this bill.

CONGRATULATIONS TO PASTOR  
GEORGE W. HAMPTON ON THE  
TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL LOVE  
MARCH

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 4, 1999*

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to recognize Pas-

tor George W. Hampton as he and the Greater New Haven Community honor the Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr. with the 28th Annual Love March.

For twenty-eight years, Pastor Hampton and the Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church have celebrated the memory of Dr. King with this annual march and service. Dr. King's actions stand out as defining moments in our nation's history. Those of us who lived through those stirring times—and many who weren't born yet—can still picture Dr. King leading the bus boycott in Montgomery, going to jail for his beliefs in Birmingham, and sounding the clearest call to end segregation in his famous address at the March on Washington. His actions changed the course of our nation forever.

And for twenty-eight years, on January fifteenth at eleven o'clock in the morning, the Greater New Haven Community has gathered to participate in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Love March—a stirring reminder of a troubled time and a peaceful soul.

I would like to extend a special note of congratulations to Pastor Hampton. As founder and organizer of the Love March, his tenacity and dedication has made the March a beloved New Haven tradition. Each time I join in the March, I am inspired by the uplifting spirit of the crowd as we sing and move through the neighborhoods of New Haven. It is an opportunity for the community to come together to remember Dr. King's teachings, and their meaning for our lives today. The Love March has helped keep Dr. King's dream alive.

I have heard Pastor Hampton tell the story of his meeting with Dr. King. As I recall, the Pastor told him about his work in the civil rights movement and Dr. King responded, "That's part of the dream—keep it up." Pastor Hampton has certainly followed that charge. For New Haven, the annual Love March is a cornerstone in the celebration of the life and spirit of Dr. King. It is a tremendous honor for me to join with Pastor Hampton's family, friends, and the City of New Haven to say thank you for giving us this annual opportunity to remember the Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr.

## RECOGNIZING YOUNG FARMERS AND RANCHERS

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 4, 1999*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Fresno, Madera, Mariposa and Tulare County Farm Bureaus' Young Farmers and Ranchers Program for providing the perfect arena to learn and become involved in current agriculture issues.

The California Farm Bureau Federation's Young Farmers and Ranchers Program is an outstanding organization for young people between the ages of 18 and 35. Young Farmers and Ranchers (YF&R) gives individuals the

opportunity to meet new friends who share similar interests, discuss problems and issues affecting agriculture and to make a difference with a voice in agriculture through YF&R, Farm Bureau and legislative involvement.

YF&R are one of the most important entities of a county Farm Bureau. It provides leadership for tomorrow and new ideas to help the Farm Bureau keep up with the constantly changing world of today's agriculture.

The Young Farmers and Ranchers Program offers an excellent opportunity to participate in activities designed to develop leadership and communication skills, and share in family activities through various motivational, educational, and social activities.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize an extremely important organization that develops future leaders through the commitment of agriculture. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing the Fresno, Madera, Mariposa and Tulare County Farm Bureaus' Young Farmers and Ranchers Program many more years of continued success.

## ON THE PASSING OF ACADEMICIAN DMITRI LIKHACHEV

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 4, 1999*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today the Russian people are mourning the passing of one of their most respected citizens and renowned scholars. Academician Dmitri Likhachev has passed away at the age of ninety-two. He was, in the words of the distinguished historian of Russia and Librarian of Congress Dr. James Billington, "an extraordinary human being, a person of great moral integrity."

Academician Likhachev epitomized what Russia has endured in this century. Born in 1906 in St. Petersburg, as a university student he was sent to the brutal Solovki labor camps established by Lenin to deal with "counter-revolutionaries." Later he was condemned with hundreds of thousands of other prisoners to dig Stalin's infamous White Sea Canal, the first major forced labor project of the Soviet period. During World War II, he survived the 900-day siege of his native city, renamed Leningrad.

Through all the deprivations and hardships of Soviet Russia, Dmitri Likhachev pursued his studies in medieval literature, ultimately becoming Russia's foremost literary and cultural historian. In 1970, he became a member of the Soviet Academy of Sciences. When the Academy voted to expel dissident scientist Academician Andrei Sakharov from its ranks, Academician Likhachev was one of the few to defend Sakharov openly and vote against expulsion. Soon afterward, he barely escaped an attempt on his life.

After the Soviet Union collapsed and Russia regained its independence, Academician

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